



# Levasseur and Carmel Families

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### Large Families

Applications for land grants to families with 12 or more children.

### Levasseurs, soldiers through the centuries

Levasseur and Carmel soldiers of the First World War 1914-1918.

### A simple soldier

The participation of Léonide Levasseur (1878-1925) in Europe during the First World War.

### A Special Recognition

Édith Levasseur named member of the Quebec Order of Excellence in Education.

### Chronique

Levasseur blood flows in their veins. Chronicle # 2: A couple passing through New France.

## Our General Meeting

It is our pleasure to invite you to the Annual General Meeting of the Levasseur Association of America Inc., by video-conference (ZOOM©) or in person in the Laurentian Room at the B9 Business Center, 797 Boul. Lebourgneuf suite 300, Quebec City, on Saturday October 1, 2022 at 10:00 AM (EDT). As space is limited, if you wish to attend in person, please inform us by September 10<sup>th</sup> by contacting Gilles Carmel ([membership@levasseur.org](mailto:membership@levasseur.org)).

You will have the opportunity to discuss with the Board of Directors and the team to find out about the organization's activities during the past year and to learn about its priorities and projects for the coming year. It is also imperative that people present themselves to replace the directors who have completed their mandates.



To attend the meeting by video conference, simply send us your email address before September 24, 2022 and we will send you by return email a personal link and password to join us. You will get the

details in the notice of meeting.

Jean-Pierre Levasseur  
Acting President



## Some big Levasseur families

### Search results from the BAnQ website

by Alex Levasseur and Jean-Pierre Levasseur  
Genealogy: Joceline Levasseur  
Translation: Pierre Levasseur

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To find out where we come from, to retrace the links that unite us with people who are related to us or with the generations that preceded us, to know who our ancestors were and what kind of society they lived in, this is an activity - genealogy - that occupies and unites many thousands of (Quebecers?) us who are in search of our origins and identity.

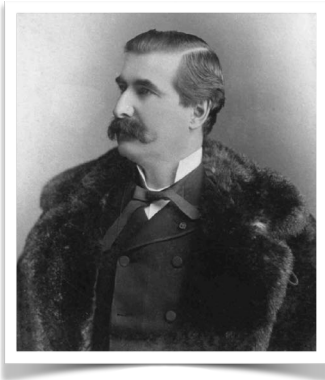


The family of Émilio Levasseur and Marie Bernier,  
with their fifteen (15) living children - September 1951<sup>1</sup>

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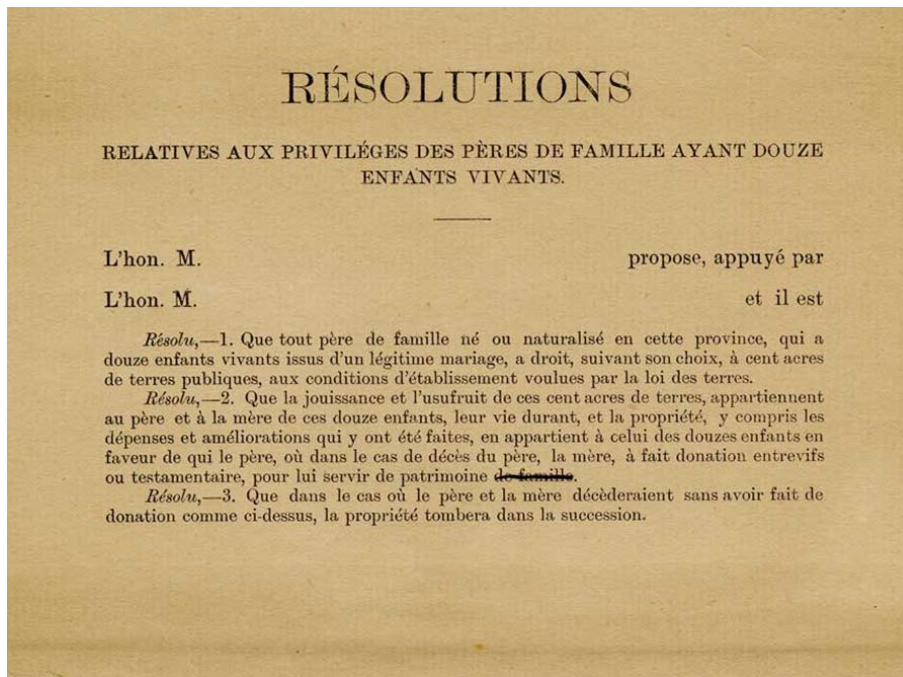
<sup>1</sup>Histoire de la paroisse de Saint-Léandre, un demi-siècle de vie paroissiale 1902-1952 (History of the parish of St-Léandre, half a century of parish life 1902-1952), prepared for the 50th anniversary of the Parish . Unknown author, self-published.

The BANQ website has very interesting online databases. Among other things, we found requests for free land grants to families with 12 or more living children, between 1890 and 1905.<sup>2</sup>



« In 1890, the government of Honoré Mercier (photo on the left), recognizing « that it is appropriate, following the example of centuries gone by, to give recognition to the fertility of the sacred bond of marriage », passed a law entitled « An act giving privilege to the fathers or mothers of families with twelve living children» (53 Vict., chap. 26). This law grants free of charge one hundred acres of public land to the parents of twelve living children, born in legitimate marriage. This measure is reminiscent of that adopted in the 17<sup>th</sup> century by Louis XIV to encourage the birth rate in Canada. Indeed, at that time, the inhabitants who had « up to ten living children, born in legitimate marriage, not priests, clergymen or nuns », could receive an annual pension of 300 pounds. This pension was increased to 400 pounds if the number of children reached twelve»<sup>3</sup>

The program came with certain restrictions, however.



<sup>2</sup> [https://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/genealogie\\_histoire\\_familiale/ressources/bd/recherche.html?id=FAMILLE&1=Levasseur&2=&3=&4=&5=&6=&7=](https://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/genealogie_histoire_familiale/ressources/bd/recherche.html?id=FAMILLE&1=Levasseur&2=&3=&4=&5=&6=&7=)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/genealogie\\_histoire\\_familiale/ressources/bd/instr\\_demande\\_de\\_terre/famille/index.html?language\\_id=1](https://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/genealogie_histoire_familiale/ressources/bd/instr_demande_de_terre/famille/index.html?language_id=1)

Many families experienced considerable difficulty in choosing the lots they were granted, as vacant Crown lands were often located too far from their place of residence. In June 1904, an important change was made to the program: one could choose between the free land or a \$50.00 allowance.

In May 1905, a new law abolished land grants and allowances for families with twelve or more children (5 Ed. VII, chap. 16), thus ending this assistance program. Between 1890 and 1905 there were 5413 families in Quebec with at least 12 living children. Of this number, 4977 families were entitled to free land or \$50 (which is equivalent to \$1,390 today).

Here are some of the Levasseur families who were able to benefit from the allocation of land or cash allowance under this law. We present them to you in a list where their name is highlighted in blue if a descendant of Laurent Levasseur (Marie Marchand) and highlighted in red if a descendant of Pierre Levasseur (Jeanne de Chaverlange).

- **Olivier Levasseur** (1821-1912) and Luce Bellefeuille (1824-1919). Location: Saint-Maurice, County: Champlain. Free grants (land and / or allowance): Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor : Pierre Levasseur. Number of descendants according to the ALA database: 15 children of whom several emigrated to the USA.
- **Noël Levasseur** (1824-1905) and Adèle Soucy (1829-1901). Location: Hull, county: Ottawa. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Chabot (Kamouraska), road 8, lot 51 and Addington (Ottawa), road 1, lot 25. Ancestor : Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 15 children - some emigrated to the USA.
- **Octave Levasseur** (1841-1917) and Catherine Dubé (1845-1912). Location: Saint-Éleuthère, county: Kamouraska. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Chabot (Kamouraska), road 8, lot 52. Ancestor: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 16 children, 4 of whom died in infancy.
- **Étienne Levasseur** (1817-1894) and Marguerite Ruais (Ruest) (1823-1878). Location: Saint-Ulric-de-Matane, county: Rimouski. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Matane (Rimouski), road 5, lot 3, 1/2 southwest. Ancestor: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database: 13 children.
- **Jérémie Levasseur** (1851-1922) and Philomène Gagné dit Bellavance (1857-1946). Location: Saint-Ulric-de-Matane, county: Rimouski. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Cherbourg (Rimouski), road 4, lot 7 and \$50 allocation. Ancestor : Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 16 children - 1 died in infancy.
- **Étienne Levasseur** (1856-1947) and Félicité Martin (1859-1931). Location: Humqui, county: Rimouski. Free grants (land and/or allowance): allocation of 50\$. Ancestor : Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database: 15 children - 2 died in infancy.
- **Michel Levasseur** (1857-1938) and Célanire Bouchard (1870-1938). Other spouses : He had a previous marriage to Marie Febvre. Location: Saint-Éleuthère. County: Kamouraska. Free



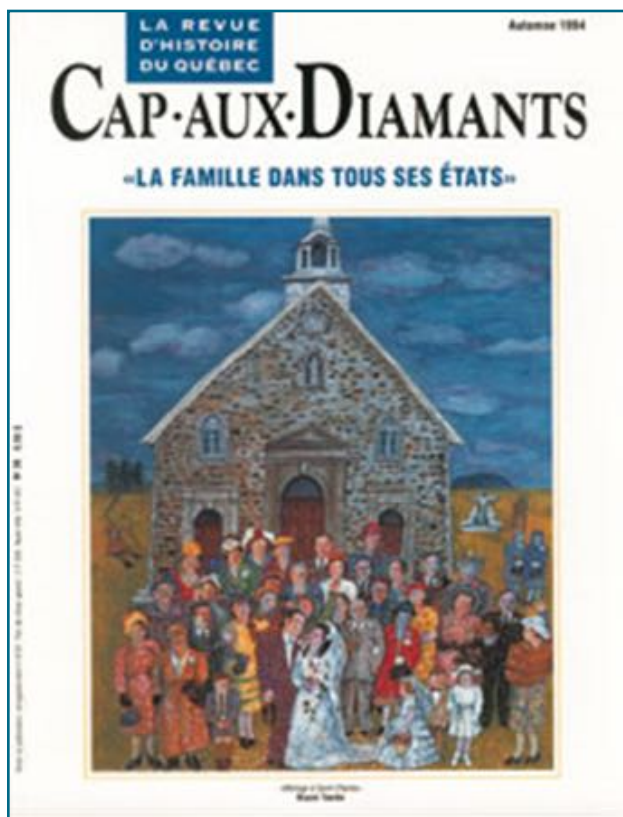
grants (land and/or allowance): Unspecified in the register. Ancestor : Laurent Levasseur.  
 Descendants according to ALA database: 23 children in total - 6 died in infancy.

- **Théophile Levasseur** (1842-1932) and Marie Beaupré (1855-1940). Location: Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel, County: Champlain. Free grants (land and / or allowance): Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor : Pierre Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database: 14 children - 2 died in infancy.
- **Rémi Levasseur** (1848-1915) and Rose-Amanda Cayouette (1859-1934). Location: Saint-Patrice-de-Tingwick, county: Arthabaska. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Ham-Sud (Wolfe), West Gosford road, lot 16 and \$50 allocation. Ancestor: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database: 16 children - 2 died in infancy - 2 emigrated to the USA.
- **Damase Levasseur** (1853-1924) and Sara Dumont (1858-1947). Location: Sainte-Angèle, county: Nicolet. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Winslow (Compton), road 2 northwest, lots 91 and 92 and \$50 allocation. Ancestor: Pierre Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database: 14 children - 2 died in infancy.
- **Louis Levasseur** (1847-1921) and Marie-Léa Moreau (1853-1894). Location: Trois-Rivières, county: Saint-Maurice. Free grants (land and / or allowance): Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor : Pierre Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database: 17 children - 5 died in infancy.
- **François Levasseur** (1842-1885) and Léontine Pelletier (1850-1893) and Charles Therriault (1865-1903) (2nd marriage). Location: Saint-Arsène, county: Témiscouata. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Viger (Témiscouata), road 8, lot 26. Ancestor of François Levasseur: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database: 11 children with François and 4 with Charles.
- Lazare Turcotte (1819-1904) and **Déliima Levasseur** (1825-1887). Location: Saint-Germain, county: Rimouski. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Macpès (Rimouski), road 1, lot 18. Ancestor of Délima : Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 16 children of whom 1 died in infancy.
- Basile Côté (1827-1906) and Caroline Gagnon (1835-1870 approx) then 2nd marriage **Marguerite Levasseur** (1841-1918). Location: Notre-Dame-du-Sacré-Coeur, county: Rimouski. Free grants (land and / or allowance) : Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor of Marguerite : Laurent Levasseur . Descendants according to ALA database: 7 children with Caroline and 8 children with Marguerite.
- Paul Martin (1857-?) and **Philomène Levasseur** (1862-1952). Location: Saint-Modeste, county: Témiscouata. Free grants (land and / or allowance) : Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor of Philomène: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 14 children.
- Ephrem Paradis (1854-1928) and **Azilda (Exilda Mathilde) Levasseur** (1863-1958). Location: Saint-André, county: Kamouraska. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Cabano (Témiscouata), road 2, lot 15 and \$50 allocation. Azilda's ancestor : Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 14 children - 1 died in infancy.
- Frédéric Desjardins (1863-1966) and **Marie-Joséphine Levasseur** (1867-1967). Location: Saint-André, county: Kamouraska. Free grants (land and / or allowance): Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor

of Joséphine: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 18 children of whom 2 died in infancy.

- Edouard Côté (1855-1922) and [Adèle Levasseur](#) (1863-1948). Location: Cacouna, county: Témiscouata. Free grants (land and / or allowance): Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor of Adèle: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 15 children of which 2 died in infancy.
- Adolphe Guillardet (Guillardetz) (1833-1912) and [Lumina \(Philomène\) Levasseur](#) (1840-1929). Location: Saint-Célestin. County: Nicolet. Free grants (land and/or allowance): Ham-Sud (Wolfe), road 1A, lot 12 and \$50 allocation. Lumina's ancestor : Pierre Levasseur. Descendants according to the ALA database: 14 children -2 died in infancy.
- Anselme Leclerc dit Francoeur (1833-1909) and [Tatienne \(Tacienne or Gatiene\) Levasseur](#) (1836-1908). Location: Saint-Jean-l'Évangéliste, county: Bonaventure. Free grants (land and / or allowance): Allocation of 50\$. Ancestor of Tatienne: Laurent Levasseur. Descendants according to ALA database : 14 children - 2 died in infancy.

For additional information:



In 1994, the Cap-aux-Diamants journal published a very interesting article entitled «Trois siècles de grosses familles» (Three centuries of large families) signed by Professor Jacques Henripin, from the Demography department of the University of Montreal. This article can be consulted at the following site: <https://www.erudit.org/fr/revues/cd/1994-n39-cd1042227/8656ac.pdf>

# World War I (the Great War!)

## A simple Levasseur soldier

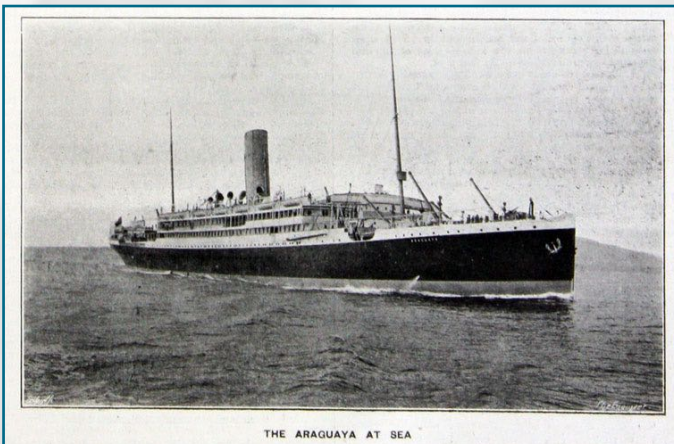
by: Alex Levasseur  
translation: Pierre Levasseur

Léonide Levasseur is my grandfather's brother, therefore my great-uncle. He was born on March 14, 1878 and got married to Émilie Desrosiers on October 11, 1898.

He enlisted voluntarily on March 9, 1914. In fact, from 1914 to 1915, approximately 330,000 Canadians voluntarily enlisted to fight the Germans in France and Belgium. Conscription was not imposed until the end of 1916. Léonide was already 38 years old when he signed up for the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force, in the 189th Battalion. At the time, he was a simple farmer in a village called St-Léandre, near Matane. Picture him as a thin, almost skinny man, with blue eyes and brown hair, 5 feet 8 inches tall, and a nice mustache!



On September 27, 1916, he embarked for his trip to England, where he arrived 10 days later. After two months, on November 12, 1916, he arrived in France. He stayed there for four and a half months, until health problems erupted: a long series of medical consultations then began. On April 2, he was diagnosed with a "nervous disease" at the hospital in Étaples. On the 9th of the same month, he was diagnosed with "dementia" at the general hospital in Le Havre. He was brought back to England on board the H.S. Panama, where he was examined at the Royal Victoria Netley Hospital. The verdict: "mental illness". Then on April 23, another examination at the Lord Derby War Hospital, also arrived at the same diagnosis.



Here is what his French medical file reveals: "*He is not well-known, but his antics and agitation make one think of madness*"



On September 14, 1917, he was taken aboard the hospital ship H.S. Araguaya; destination Halifax. It is then that we will learn the real reason for his state of health:

« In December 1916, in France, he slept on the wet ground in a trench; he was slightly wounded and blown up by the explosion of a shell. That is when rheumatic pains, pains in the right leg, shoulder, knees and back started. He had tried to explain how he felt but nobody could understand him properly in the English hospitals».

He was finally demobilized in January 1918, but he would not survive very long at home in St. Léandre. He died 7 years later. He was collecting \$20 per month for his 14 months of service.

*Duplicat*

**PIÈCE D'ATTESTATION.** N<sup>o</sup>: 2017  
Folio

**CORPS EXPÉDITIONNAIRE CANADIEN D'OUTRE-MER**

QUESTIONNAIRE REQUIS AVANT ATTESTATION (RÉPONSES)

1. Quel est votre nom de famille? *Levasseur*
- 1a. Quels sont vos noms de baptême? *Léonide*
- 1b. Quelle est votre présente adresse? *141 Avenue*
2. En quelle ville, village ou paroisse, et en quel pays êtes-vous né? *Paris, France*
3. Quel est le nom de votre plus proche parent? *M. Léonide Levasseur*
4. Quelle est l'adresse de votre plus proche parent? *141 Avenue*
- 4a. Quel est votre degré de parenté avec lui? *Le père*
5. Quelle est la date de votre naissance? *15 mars 1878*
6. Quel est votre métier ou profession? *Journalier*
7. Êtes-vous marié? *OUI*
8. Consentez-vous à être vacciné ou revacciné et inoculé? *OUI*
9. Faites-vous déjà partie de la Milice active? *OUI*
10. Avez-vous déjà fait du service militaire? (En ce cas, mentionner les dates de service) *OUI*
11. Comprenez-vous bien la nature et les termes de votre engagement? *OUI*
12. Consentez-vous à être attesté pour service dans le Corps Expéditionnaire Canadien d'outre-mer? *OUI*

**DÉCLARATION REQUISE DU SUJET**

Je, *Léonide Levasseur*, déclare solennellement que ce qui précède contient les réponses que j'ai faites au questionnaire ci-dessus, et que ces réponses sont véridiques, et que je consens à remplir les engagements que je prends maintenant, et à être affecté à une armée quelconque dans le service de ce Corps pour le terme d'une année, et pour six mois après la conclusion de cette guerre dans le cas où Sa Majesté requerrait mes services d'autant, ou jusqu'à ce que je sois légalement libéré.

*Léonide Levasseur* (Signature de la Recrue)  
Date: *9 Mars* 191*6* *J. Simard* (Signature du Témoin)

**SERMENT REQUIS DU SUJET**

Je, *Léonide Levasseur*, prête le serment d'être fidèle et de donner mon entière allegiance à Sa Majesté le Roi George V, ses Héritiers et Successeurs, de me faire un devoir de défendre loyalement et fidèlement la Personne, la Couronne et la Dignité de Sa Majesté, et de ses Héritiers et Successeurs contre tous ennemis, et d'obéir ponctuellement à tous les commandements de Sa Majesté, de ses Héritiers et Successeurs, ainsi que de tous Généraux et Officiers placés au-dessus de moi. Amen-Dieu me soit en aide.

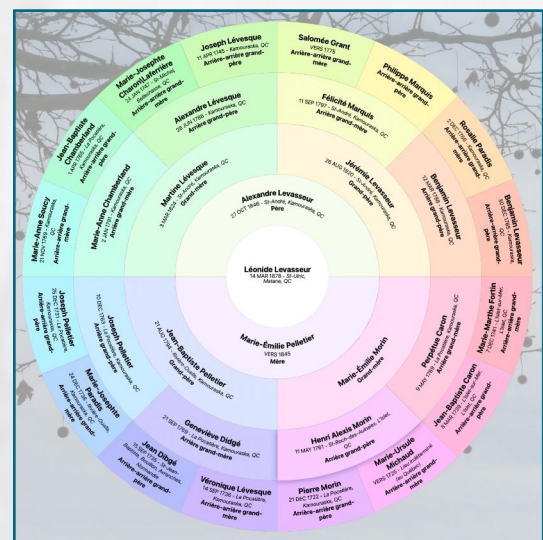
*Léonide Levasseur* (Signature de la Recrue)  
Date: *9 Mars* 191*6* *J. Simard* (Signature du Témoin)

**CERTIFICAT DU MAGISTRAT**

La Recrue ci-dessus nommée a été présentée par moi que, s'il répondait faussement à aucune des questions ci-dessus, il serait passible des peines prévues par la loi de l'armée.  
Les questions ci-dessus ont alors été lues à la Recrue en ma présence.  
J'ai vu avec soin, à ce qu'il comptait chaque question, et à ce que les réponses à chacune fussent fidèlement inscrites telles que reçues, et la dite Recrue a fait et signé la déclaration et prêté le serment en ma présence, à *Montreal* ce *9 Mars* jour de *Mars* 191*6*.

*J. Simard* (Signature du Juge)

[Pre-enrolment questionnaire. Click on this link for a full-size view](#)



[Genealogical fan of Léonide Levasseur. Click on this link for a full-size view](#)



Léonide Levasseur (1878-1925)



# Some Levasseur, soldiers from the past century

## Soldiers of the First World War: 1914-1918

by: Jean-Pierre Levasseur  
 Revised: Alex Levasseur and Joceline Levasseur  
 Translation: Roger Levasseur and Pierre Levasseur

The First World War was the first of the great world conflicts of the twentieth century. From 1914 to 1918, this war pitted the central powers of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and other smaller allied states against the Alliance of countries, including the British Empire, France, Russia, Italy, Japan, the United States and their allies.

### Documents of certification and enlistment forms<sup>1</sup>

Copy 7

10 M. D. First Depot Detachment Subaltern Regiment  
 Drafted Under Military Service Act, 1917  
 (Class One)

**PARTICULARS OF RECRUIT**  
 DRAFTED UNDER MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1917  
 (Class One)

1. Surname Levasseur  
 2. Christian Name Joseph Philippe  
 3. Present Address St-Jovite, Ste-Beuve  
 4. Military Service Act letter and number 10007 72  
 5. Date of Birth December 16th 1893  
 6. Place of Birth St-Jovite, Quebec  
 7. Married, widower or single Single  
 8. Religion Roman Catholic  
 9. Trade or calling Contractor  
 10. Name of next-of-kin Mrs. Thelma Howard  
 11. Relationship of next-of-kin Sister  
 12. Address of next-of-kin 177 Elm Street, Montclair, N.J., U.S.A.  
 13. Whether at present a member of the Active Militia No  
 14. Particulars of previous military or naval service, if any None  
 15. Medical Examination under Military Service Act—  
 (a) Place St-Jovite (b) Date June 1918 (c) Category A1

**DECLARATION OF RECRUIT**

I, Joseph Philippe Levasseur, do solemnly declare that the above particulars refer to me, and are true.

*Joseph Philippe Levasseur*  
 Signature of Recruit

**DESCRIPTION ON CALLING UP**

Apparent age	24	yrs.	8	mths.	Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital proclivities or previous disease.
Height	5	ft.	9	in.	
Chest measurement	fully expanded		37	in.	
	= range of expansion		2	in.	
Complexion	<u>Swedish</u>				
Eyes	<u>Blue</u>				
Hair	<u>Dark</u>				

*H. J. A. C. G. P.*  
 Medical Officer  
 O.C. Depot Det.

Regt.

Class One, First Depot Detachment Subaltern Regiment

"At the time of enlistment, volunteers who enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force had to provide the information necessary to complete a two-page certification document. This document contains the name and address of the recruit, the next of kin, the date and place of birth, the trade or occupation and the military background, as well as a description of any particular physical characteristics. Recruits had to sign the certification document, thereby indicating their commitment to serve overseas. Conscripts called upon to join the CEF under the Military Service Act (1917) completed a much simpler, one-page form containing only their name and date of recruitment and attesting to compliance with the conditions of enlistment. A one-page form entitled 'Officers Declaration Paper' was completed by the officers. This series of archives contains some 620,000 certification documents and enlistment forms under the Military Service Act. These documents were produced in duplicate at the time of enlistment in the CEC. At least one copy of the certification document or enlistment form accompanied each CEF member seconded overseas, where it was

placed in the service file of each soldier with the Canadian Department of Military Forces Overseas. These records were kept in London. The originals of the certification documents and enlistment forms are kept at Library and Archives Canada in the archival files (RG 9, Series II B8, vol. 1-654).»

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/personnel-records.aspx>

## Information extracted from military records

Consultation of these records provides a great deal of unpublished information about the individuals of interest, primarily during the period in which they served in the armed forces. This additional information (such as physical characteristics, illnesses, or acts of desertion) cannot be found in documents usually consulted by genealogists (civil and religious registers, or general censuses).

To illustrate this, we have chosen at random one of the people identified in this article. Here is what a quick reading of the military file of **Joseph-Philippe Levasseur** can tell us.

### 1 - Document : « Particulars of recruit » (date 5 août 1915)<sup>2</sup>

Joseph-Philippe Levasseur, 24 years old, signed his enlistment certificate at the 1st Battalion office in Regina, Saskatchewan. He declared that he was born on December 16, 1893 in Arthabaska, Quebec (this corresponds to the records in our database), occupation, contractor. He is single and Roman Catholic. His physical examination states that he is in "average" physical condition, that his chest measurement is 37 inches with full extension at 39 inches, he is 5 feet 9 inches tall, has blue eyes and dark hair. Prior to his enlistment, he had never served in the active militia or naval forces. At the time of his enlistment, he lived in Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan. As first respondent, he names his mother, Mrs. Émilie Lefebvre who lives at 179 Pine street, Manchester, NH.

### 2- Document : « Medical history sheet » (dated January 19, 1918)<sup>3</sup>

Declared in « good health » weighing 150 pounds, with a visual acuity of 20/20 and normal hearing. Has never been vaccinated.

### 3- Document : « Casualty form - Active Service » (dated February 15, 1919)<sup>4</sup>

It was at the Moose Jaw, Alberta detachment that Joseph-Philippe Levasseur's discharge certificate was issued. A few days earlier, in the document entitled « Last pay certificate », Private Levasseur received his due, which was \$3.30 from the previous month, a regular 10-day pay at \$1.00 per day, plus an additional allowance of 10 cents per day for those 10 days, for a total of \$14.30 (This \$14.00 from 1919 is equivalent in purchasing power to approximately \$229.60 today, an increase of \$215.60 over 103 years).

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.levasseur.org/infos/documents/20220901\\_por.jpg](https://www.levasseur.org/infos/documents/20220901_por.jpg) - Particulars of recruit

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.levasseur.org/infos/documents/20220901\\_mhs.jpg](https://www.levasseur.org/infos/documents/20220901_mhs.jpg) - Medical history sheet

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.levasseur.org/infos/documents/20220901\\_cf.jpg](https://www.levasseur.org/infos/documents/20220901_cf.jpg) - Casualty form - Active Service

## Additional information from our database

Joseph-Philippe is a descendant of Pierre Levasseur. His parents were married in Manchester, NH. His father Joseph Levasseur died very young, in 1893 (May 28) at the age of 28, so 7 months before his birth. His mother, Émilie Lefebvre was remarried to John Edmond Rivard in Manchester, NH on February 9, 1902. The 1920 census of the city of Manchester indicates that two children were born of this second (Rivard-Lefebvre) marriage.

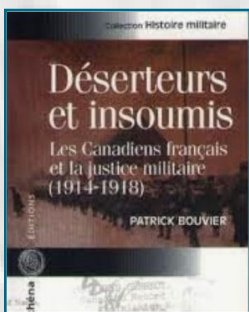
After the war, Joseph-Philippe married Éveline Touchette on March 4, 1924 in Edmonton. Six children were born of this union, all in Edmonton (5 girls, 1 boy). He died on November 26, 1952 and is buried in the parish of St-Joachim in Edmonton. On the 1952 list of voters, his widow Évelyne is said to reside on 132<sup>nd</sup> Street in Edmonton.

## Some facts about the « Deserters and draft dodgers ».

Opposed to conscription, some Canadians refused to enlist in the army and went into hiding. Others, volunteers or conscripts, chose to desert, a serious crime punishable by death. In all, 23 Canadians were executed after brief court appearances. Professor and author Patrick Bouvier discusses the fate of these deserters. On August 4, 1914, the British Empire declared war on Germany. By October, Canadian volunteers have made their way to the European front.

« The soldiers who enlisted in the Canadian army were not subject to a Canadian law, but to the British military law » says Patrick Bouvier. « It provides for the death penalty for desertion, treason and falling asleep on duty. On the other hand, no Briton had been executed for desertion since 1803. Even so, Fortunat Auger of the 14th Battalion was the first Canadian deserter to be executed, on May 26, 1916 »

## Recommended reading:



French Canadian deserters and draft dodgers and military justice, by Patrick Bouvier, ATHENA publisher. « In an effort to dispel the preconceived notions and legends that have persisted since the First World War that many French-Canadian servicemen evaded enlistment and broke ranks once enlisted, Patrick Bouvier turns his attention to deserters and the military tribunals before which they were tried. For many Canadians, the deserter or draft dodger was nothing but a weakling and a coward. In Quebec, on the contrary, the deserter has long been valued and many have made him the symbol of the hero who defied Anglophone federal authority. This image of the deserter and the memory of conscription completely overshadowed the war

effort of other soldiers.»

Here are 63 Levasseur found in the military archives, enlisted during the First World War. The military records can be viewed by clicking on the name <sup>5</sup>. Here is the meaning of the codes used in the table: [P] Descendant of Pierre Levasseur and Jeanne de Chaverlange, [J] Descendant of Jean Levasseur/Lavigne and Geneviève Gauche, [L] Descendant of Laurent Levasseur and Marie Marchand [V] Descendant of Charles Vassor and Marie-Louise Boussard.

<b><u>Albert Levasseur</u></b> , n.1896-06-16, Arthabaska, QC [P]	<b><u>Alphonse Levasseur</u></b> (désertion, voir fiche)
<b><u>Armand Levasseur</u></b> n. 1892-09-20, St-Maurice, QC [P]	<b><u>Arsène Levasseur</u></b> n.1888-01-16, St-François, Madawaska [L]
<b><u>Arthur Levasseur</u></b> n. 1899-09-11, Lumby, BC [L]	<b><u>Ben Levasseur</u></b> n 1886-06-14, d. 1917-02-27, France (*)[L]
<b><u>Charles Levasseur</u></b> n.1886-09-26, Rivière-du-Loup, QC [L]	<b><u>Charles Levasseur</u></b> n. 1896-09-27, Bic, Rimouski, QC [L]
<b><u>Charles-Adophe Levasseur</u></b> n. 1896-01-25, Montréal, QC[V]	<b><u>Claud (Claude) Levasseur</u></b> n 1893-08-21, Hull, QC [P]
<b><u>Donal Levasseur</u></b> n.1895-05-25, Tingwich, QC [L]	<b><u>Eddy Levasseur</u></b> n. 1897-09-14, Ste-Angèle-de-Laval, QC [P]
<b><u>Edouard Levasseur</u></b> n. 1888-05-12, St-Grégoire, QC [P]	<b><u>Elphège Levasseur</u></b> n. 1896-04-20, Ste-Angèle-de-Laval, QC [P]
<b><u>Émile Levasseur</u></b> n. 1897-06-05, Ste-Angèle-de-Laval, QC [P]	<b><u>Émile Levasseur</u></b> n. 1895-07-23, Hull, QC [L]
<b><u>Eudore Levasseur</u></b> n. 1894-12-30, Ste-Angèle-de-Laval QC [P]	<b><u>Félix Levasseur</u></b> n. 1897-09-29, Ste-Monique, Nicolet, QC [P]
<b><u>Georges-Ernest Levasseur</u></b> n. 1863-09-10, Matane, QC [L]	<b><u>Harold F Levasseur</u></b> n. 1892-12-22, Island of Guernsey
<b><u>Henri Levasseur</u></b> n. 1888-08-12, Fall River, MA [L]	<b><u>Horace Levasseur</u></b>
<b><u>Hormidas Levasseur</u></b> (désertion, voir fiche)	<b><u>Jack Levasseur</u></b> n. 1891-08-08, Ottawa, ON [P]
<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n. 1891-01-16, Lumby, BC [L]	<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n. 1897-08-27, Québec, QC [L]
<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n. 1894-05-23, QC d.1939-09-05, ON [P]	<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n. 1896-08-09, St-Wenceslas, QC [P]
<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n 1895-06-23, St-François, Madawaska, NB [L]	<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n. 1895-06-13, Rivière-du-Loup, QC [L]
<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n. 1896-11-04, Kamouraska, QC [L]	<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u></b> n. 1894-09-07, Bécancour, QC [P]

<sup>5</sup> The validity of these links was verified on June 19, 2022. Possibly, certain records may have been moved. In such cases, consult the site of the Library and archives Canada and search for "First World War Personnel Records."



<b><u>Joseph Levasseur</u> n. 1896-03-07, St-Sylvère, Nicolet, QC [P]</b>	<b><u>Joseph Albert Levasseur</u> n. 1897-06-17, Matane, QC [L]</b>
<b><u>Joseph Albert Levasseur</u> n. 1867-12-29, St-Paul-de-Chester, QC [P]</b>	<b><u>Joseph Louis Levasseur</u> n. 1890-02-01, Beauport, QC [L]</b>
<b><u>Joseph Philippe Levasseur</u> n. 1893-12-16, Arthabaska, QC [P]</b>	<b><u>Laurent Levasseur</u></b>
<b><u>Léonide Levasseur</u> n. 1878-03-14, d. 1925-5-9, St-Léandre, QC [L]</b>	<b><u>Lucien Levasseur</u> n. 1895-03-28, Yamachiche, QC [P]</b>
<b><u>Ludger Levasseur</u> n. 1895-11-22, Princeville, QC [P]</b>	<b><u>Michael Herménégilde</u> n. 1869-07-25, N-D-du Lac, QC [L]</b>
<b><u>Noël Levasseur</u> n. 1896-12-25, St-Éleuthère, QC [L]</b>	<b><u>Ovila Levasseur</u> n. 1896-04-07, St-Fortunat, QC [P]</b>
<b><u>Pantaléon Germain Levasseur</u> n. 1895-12-18, St-Éleuthère, QC [L]</b>	<b><u>Paul Levasseur</u> n. 1875-09-18, Québec, QC (**)[L]</b>
<b><u>Philimon Levasseur</u> n. 1896-02-09, Ste-Perpétue, QC [P]</b>	<b><u>Robert Levasseur</u> n. 1896-04-19, Matane, QC [L]</b>
<b><u>Rodophe Levasseur</u> n. 1894-06-15, St-Maurice, QC [P]</b>	<b><u>Rolland Levasseur</u> n. 1897-10-07, Fall River, MA [L]</b>
<b><u>Thomas Levasseur</u></b>	<b><u>Thomas Samuel Levasseur</u> n. 1893-01-26, St-Maurice, QC [P]</b>
<b><u>Wilfrid Levasseur</u></b>	<b><u>William Levasseur</u> n. 1895-12-14, décédé 1918-10-15 (***) [L]</b>
<b><u>Willie Levasseur</u> n. 1896-08-20, Trois-Rivières, QC [P]</b>	<b><u>Zphère (Zéphirin) Levasseur</u> n. 1895-02-16, St-Ulric, QC [L]</b>
<b><u>Eudore Carmel</u> n.1895-05-30 [P]</b>	<b><u>Albert Paul Vassair</u> n. 1896-02-27 (killed in action) [J]</b>
<b><u>Angus Edward Vasseur</u> n. 1896-05-29 Midland, ON [J]</b>	<b><u>Charle Henry Vassair</u> n. 1889-09-06, Midland, ON [J]</b>
<b><u>Franck Vasseur</u> n. 1890-02-15, France</b>	<b><u>Leroy (Leo) John Vasseur</u> n.1892-11-19, Bellow Falls, VT [J]</b>
<b><u>Wilfred F. Vassair</u> n. 1891-07-09, d.1918-11-06, France **** [J]</b>	

(\*) Reported missing - presumed killed in action

(\*\*) Paul (Paul-Eugène) Levasseur (regimental number VR-9830) was in the Royal Canadian Navy as a mechanic. He was born in Quebec City, in the Saint-Roch parish. He was the son of Nazaire Levasseur and Fédora Venner, and the brother of Dr. Irma Levasseur. In 1921, Paul Levasseur was enumerated in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He lived with Helen Wright, 67 years old. She was a widow.

(\*\*\*) William (Willy) Levasseur died in Quebec City of pneumonia (regimental number 3382233)

(\*\*\*\*) Killed in action

We also found some death records recorded in the archives. A hypertext link will lead you to a reproduction of their file, taken from the Armed Forces website.

<a href="#">Albert Levasseur</a> , Died on October 12, 1918 (Spanish flu) - Saint Charles Cemetery, Quebec City.	<a href="#">Joseph Levasseur</a> , Death September 5, 1939, service number 649-L-26455 - Buried in Sudbury, ON
<a href="#">Léonide Levasseur</a> , Died May 9, 1925, service number 889645, lived in St-Léandre (Matane), QC	<a href="#">William Levasseur</a> , Born on December 14, 1895 in Van Buren, ME, died October 15, 1918. (pneumonia) service number 3382233

### Irma LeVasseur, an exemplary contribution to the war effort<sup>6</sup>



La D<sup>re</sup> Irma LeVasseur  
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After leaving Sainte-Justine, Irma LeVasseur returned to New York where she worked for the city's health unit as a medical inspector for schoolchildren until April 1915. She then volunteered to treat the victims of a major typhus epidemic in Serbia during the war, which killed nearly 800,000 people in two years. A few Canadian doctors accompany him, including the future Quebec Minister of Health in Duplessis, Dr. Albiny Paquette<sup>7</sup>. In his memoirs, he will praise the courage, determination and indomitable energy of the only woman in the group, who continues her work long after the departure of her Canadian colleagues. In 1918, she was found in a military hospital in France, then again in New York where she worked for the Red Cross.

The Association des Levasseur<sup>8</sup> has taken the initiative to have Dr. Irma LeVasseur recognized by the Government of Canada for her many contributions to medicine in French Canada. Not only was she the first female French Canadian doctor, but she was also the instigator of the founding of Sainte-Justine Hospitals in Montreal and L'Enfant-Jésus in Quebec.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/culture/clmhc-hsmbc/res/information-backgrounder/irma-levasseur>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/albiny-paquette>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.irma.levasseur.org>

# Chronicle: Levasseur blood flows in their veins

by: Alex Levasseur  
translation: Pierre Levasseur

*Many families have a very close link with the Levasseurs, either through their mothers or their wives. These ties can be very old and go back to France in some cases. We are continuing this quarterly column to introduce you to these families and their link with the Levasseurs.*

## Chronicle # 2: A couple passing through New France

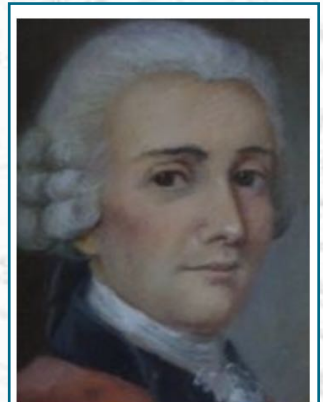


<https://gw.geneanet.org/pierfit?lang=en&p=marie+anne&n=levasseur&oc=4>

Marie-Anne Levasseur was born on August 2, 1737 in Paris, parish of Notre-Dame de Versailles. She is the daughter of Nicolas-René Levasseur, chief of construction for the king's ships and inspector of woods and forests of Canada, and Marie-Angélique Just. (see Bulletin <https://www.levasseur.org/infos/f/20200701.pdf>)

She was married in Montreal on November 21, 1760 to Alexandre Robert d'Hilaire de La Rochette, agent of the Treasurers General of the Navy, son of Charles-Robert Hillaire de Moissacq and de La Rochette, and Elisabeth Martin, of the parish of Notre-Dame de Versailles, France.

"Alexandre-Robert Hillaire de La Rochette first appeared in Canada in 1755, as secretary to André Doreil, who was appointed chief commissioner of the Dieskau expedition. In Quebec, Montcalm and Bigot, as well as Doreil, took an interest in his career and a few months after Doreil's departure for France at the end of 1758, de La Rochette succeeded Jacques Imbert as agent of the Treasurers General of the Navy. He retained this position from October 16, 1759 until the official cession of the colony to Great Britain in 1763. (...) De La Rochette's main duties were to make the payments for the crown using the various kinds of paper money in use in Canada, and to maintain public confidence in this currency by converting it annually into bills of exchange drawn on his patrons in Paris. Performing these tasks during the war years, with inflation, the maneuvering of profiteers and frequent losses of mail



<https://gw.geneanet.org/pierfit?n=d+hillaire+de+la+rochette&p=alexandre+robert>

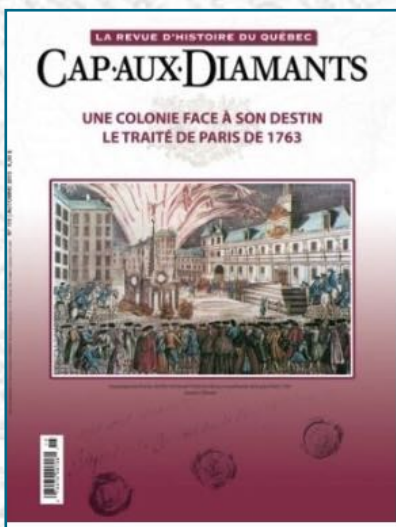


transported by ship, proved extremely difficult, as Imbert had experienced before leaving office. In addition, on October 15, 1759, when La Rochette took office, the French government made his work impossible by suspending the repayment of bills of exchange drawn in the colonies from the Treasurers General. Much was said about de La Rochette. He was said to be incompetent - and this was the least of the accusations against him - but the most perfect man would have been doomed for failure in such a position and in such times.

The minister, however, had a high opinion of de La Rochette and, upon his return to France, he appointed him agent for the colonies on October 16, 1763, to supervise the purchase of goods going to the colonies and colonial services. He also entrusted him with the liquidation of Canada's papers. »<sup>1</sup>

Marie-Anne's father, Nicolas-René, returned to France after the capitulation of Montreal. Marie-Anne and her husband, with their children, will do the same in 1763, with the signing of the Treaty of Paris. Anne-Marie Levasseur reportedly died on April 16, 1814. According to our research, they did not leave any descendants in New France.

To find out more...



The Quebec history magazine "Cap-aux-Diamant" published an article in the fall of 2013 entitled "France's debt: Canada's papers" by Sophie Imbeault. You can read this article here:

<https://www.erudit.org/en/journals/cd/1900-v1-n1-cd0850/70079ac.pdf>

<sup>1</sup> Dictionary of Canadian Biography : [http://www.biographi.ca/fr/bio/hillaire\\_de\\_la\\_rochette\\_alexandre\\_robert\\_4E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/fr/bio/hillaire_de_la_rochette_alexandre_robert_4E.html)



# A great honor for Édith Levasseur

by: [Alex Levasseur](#)  
Translation: [Pierre Levasseur](#)



On May 31, Pohénégamook teacher Édith Levasseur was named a member of the Order of Excellence in Education of Québec for her contributions in "raising the quality of education in Quebec" at the preschool and elementary levels.

Over the past few years, Édith Levasseur has implemented the Full Awareness Impact program<sup>1</sup>, which helps develop the emotional intelligence of young people. She has been a teacher for about 20 years in the Lower St. Lawrence region. "Yesterday, I lived great emotions as I realized the magnitude of this award, which is one of the most prestigious awards that one can receive in the field of education" explains Ms. Levasseur. She also compares this nomination to a hockey player

winning the Stanley Cup.

She offers concrete techniques that facilitate classroom management and help children develop their emotional skills to make room for learning.<sup>2</sup>

The Levasseur Association of America extends its warmest congratulations to her.

Edith is the daughter of Clermont Levasseur and Pierrette Potvin and is a descendant of the ancestor Laurent Levasseur. Her great-grandparents, Georges Levasseur and Philomène St-Pierre, deep-rooted in Témiscouata, have close to 300 descendants<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://impactpleineconscience.ca/contact/>

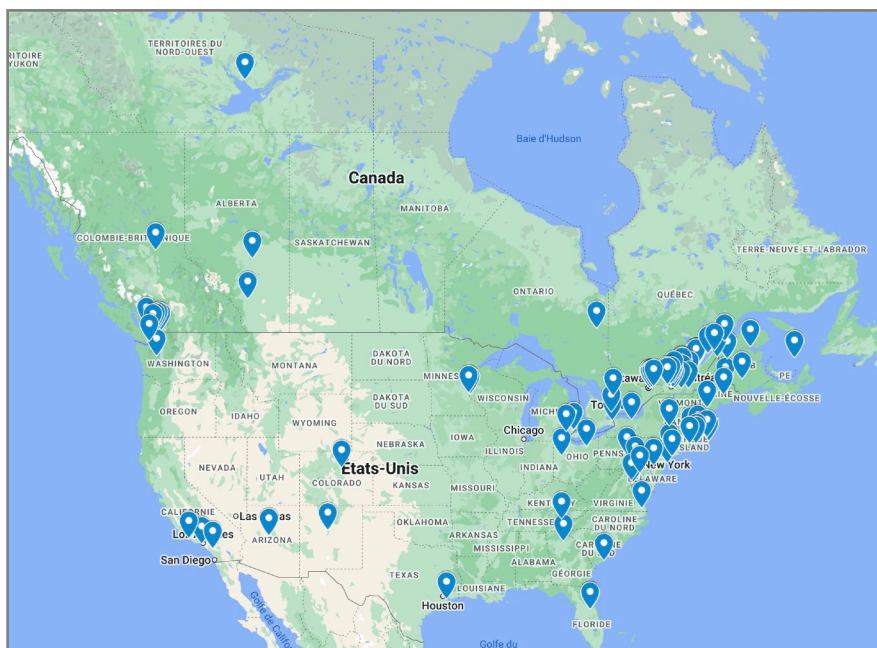
<sup>2</sup> <https://www.infodimanche.com/actualites/actualite/463903/edith-levasseur-nommee-membre-de-lordre-de-l'excellence-en-education-du-quebec>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.levasseur.org/tng>



Levasseur Pierre (1923-2002-1nv)

In 1950, a producer of Pont l'Evêque and farmer in Coquainvilliers named Pierre Levasseur started to make cheeses of the same name. In 1960, with the increase in production, the buildings were expanded to become in 1999 the Fromagerie de Saint Désir where the Pont-L'Evêque is manufactured and ripened.



Geographical distribution of our members around the world





The Levasseur Association of America Inc. is a non-profit organization, founded in 1988, in accordance with a federal charter. It's goals are:

- To join together and unite a large number of Levasseur and other descendants who have adopted the patronymic Borgia, Carmel, Carmell, Vasseur, Vassor, Vasser.
- To promote, develop and diffuse historical genealogical knowledge about the Levasseur families through the Internet, through an electronic Newsletter published four times per year and also through the publication of genealogical dictionaries.
- To maintain and update, on an ongoing basis, the genealogical data base that is available to members at all times on the Internet.
- To make available to members a family photo album and the Newsletters that the Association has published since 1988.
- To honor the memory of our forefathers and their descendants by way of monuments, plaques or symbolic gestures that commemorate historic events that are chronicles of the Levasseur family.
- To gather all documents related to the Levasseur family for the purpose of constructing archives that will constitute the heritage of our Association and that will provide a source of information for historians and genealogists.

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